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1948 Dahlias

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U. S. Department of Agriculture

BOULDER HILL GARDENS

897 Leland Place

EL CAJON, CALIF., U. S. A.

GREETINGS

We would like to submit to you our 1948 catalog which we hope will meet with your approval. The circle of dahlia enthusiasts is wide but growing constantly, and we hope we can help you in your selections for this year's planting.

We are listing those varieties that have proved to be worthwhile for both exhibition and the home garden.

As we quickly discard all plants or roots that do not measure up to high standards, some varieties may be in small supply, so we strongly urge that you order early.

Please feel free to consult us concerning problems in any phase of dahlia culture. In the following pages, we suggest methods we have used to best advantage. However, you may prefer practices you have found best suited to your particular area or growing conditions.

(Cover photograph of "Carl G. Dahl" dahlia)

Sincerely,
BOULDER HILL GARDENS

CULTURE

TIME Dahlias should be planted after danger of frost has past. It usually takes about 90 days from the time you plant until the first bloom, so if you wish to plant for shows, you can plant accordingly.

PLANTING SEED. In a box 5" deep and 20" square, place a sifted mixture of equal parts of garden loam, leaf mold and sand. Smoothe this mixture off flat then press firmly, especially in the corners. Surface of compost should be 1" below lip of box. Plant seed about an inch apart and one-half inch deep in rows 2" apart. Cover seed, press firmly, then water thoroughly. Be sure that your box has drainage holes in the bottom so that excess water may run out. Seed usually germinates in 4 to 9 days. When the second set of leaves appear, transplant, 2" apart. When new growth is well in evidence, remove plants and plant in the field. Do not let them dry out.

PREPARING SOIL. Ten days prior to planting, dig hole two feet in diameter and one foot deep. In the bottom of this hole, put a handful of bonemeal and mix it thoroughly with the soil. Drive in a six foot stake and replace soil in the hole.

PLANTING OF ROOTS. Plant root six inches deep with "eye" up and two inches from stake. Cover hole about half full; as the plant comes through you fill in. Do not water but once until plant comes up. Label the stake.

PLANTING OF GREEN PLANTS. When you receive your plant, look to see that it is moist, and place it in the lath house for two or three days. In the evening, remove paper pot and place in hole that was previously dug so that the top of ball is three inches below surface of ground; fill in as plant grows. Label the stake.

CULTIVATION. Keep surface of ground well cultivated to a depth of about three inches until about the middle of August then discontinue cultivation. About this time the feeder roots have come to the surface and they should not be disturbed at this late date.

WATERING. We use the sprinkler system here at Boulder Hill but any way you wish to water, is fine. Soak down at least six

inches. Cultivate. Do not let the plants go dry, for, due to the large leaves, there is much transpiration and the plant will have to draw from the tuber.

PESTS. Every week dust with a mixture of 5% DDT and sulphur. This will control nearly everything except aphids and these can be controlled with a nicotine spray. Watch for cutworms. They hide just under the soil during the day and at night they come out and cause their exasperating damage.

DISBUDDING. When the plant is a foot high, count up from the ground, three sets of leaves. Slightly above this third set, steel yourself and pinch out the beautiful top of the plant. From each set of leaves you will find after a few days, two new vigorous side shoots; in all, six shoots. Let these shoots grow. When flower buds appear, and you can get your finger in, break off all side buds so that there is only one bud to each of the six main shoots. Just below the buds, break out all new side shoots, all the way down the six main stalks, until you come to the bottom two shoots. Leave these, they will form your next set of blooms. First you will have six blooms, cut these just above the two remaining side shoots so thirty days later you will have twelve blooms, and the next set having twenty-four, etc. Disbudding is very important if you wish a low stocky plant and very large blooms.

FEEDING. Dahlias are heavy feeders and it is necessary to feed them regularly — about every three weeks. Steer manure is all right to use provided it is well decayed or composted for a year. Then use only as a mulch. A potato fertilizer such as 2-10-10 is the best. As the buds appear, apply this dressing around the drip line of the plant, about a handful, not closer than six inches to the main stalk. Scratch this into the soil and water. When buds show color, scratch in a teaspoon full of blood meal around the plant. Use sparingly, for blood meal has very much nitrogen and you might weaken the bush by too rapid growth.

CUT FLOWERS Cut blooms late in the afternoon. Cut just above the last set of leaves next to the main stalk. Take off a suitable amount of foliage and plunge it into cool water. Leave the flowers out in the open all night, being careful that the morning sun will

not hit them. If you will use Bloomlife, the flowers will last days longer. If you can't get it locally, we can supply you.

HARVESTING ROOTS. Do not dig until the entire plant is dead and brown. Cut stalk six inches high. Plunge a spade straight down all around the plant about eight inches from the stalk. Gently lift out the ball and break off as much soil as possible. Turn the hose on and wash off the remaining soil. Cut off all hair roots and stalk leaving about two inches. Do not strain the necks of the tubers. Locate the eyes next to the stalk and separate the clump. With an indelible pencil, mark each tuber so that you can later identify it. Dip cut ends in sulphur and store in deep sand.

DISEASE

We are constantly alert for diseased plants in our greenhouse, lath house, and garden throughout the year. If we find any such plant, we spray the entire area then burn the plant. Our stock is exceptionally clean.

GREEN PLANTS

Our green plants are produced from base cuttings and rooted in a special propagating bed. They are then placed in a 3½ inch pot and when they show a definite growth they are put into the lath house to harden off before they are sold. We find that the quality and size of blooms for exhibition are just as good as when grown from roots.

You are invited to visit us any time. Our flowers, however, are in bloom from July to October.



OUTSTANDING DAHLIAS

ALL AMERICAN—S. C.

Mulberry Rose. Blooms 10x6. Bush 4 feet high.
Roots \$1.00

AURORA—I. D.

Amaranth pink. Blooms 10x5. Bush 3½ feet high.
Roots \$1.50. Plants .75

AXFORD TRIUMPH (Australia) I. D.

Coppery orange. Blooms 12x7. Bush 5 feet high. These blooms stay large without disbudding. Early and late bloomer.
Roots \$1.50 Plants .75

BEAUTE' (Holland) I. C.

Pure yellow. Medium blooms. Plants 7' high. Profuse bloomers.
Plants .75

BERTHA HORNE C.

Blend of orange and apricot. Blooms 5x3. Bush 4' high. Profuse bloomer and excellent cut flower.
Roots .75.

BESS SMITH I.D.

Gorgeous ruffled white. Blooms 10x6. Bush 5' high. Consistent blue ribbon winner. Good keeper.
Plants .75

Key to abbreviations of types of varieties :

Bloom size and plant height, indicate average.

F. D.—Formal Decorative. The petals of this type are very regular and well kept, like a zinnia, having a tendency to bend back, thus forming a kind of ball.

I. D.—Informal Decorative. This is commonly known as the "shaggy" type for the petals twist and wave.
blown by the wind.

S. C.—Semi-Cactus. The petals are twisted or rolled less than half their length.

C.—Cactus. The petals are rolled their entire length, described by some as being "spidery."

I. C.—Incurved Cactus. The rolled petals curve forward.

BULLDOZER I. D.

Vivid orange with tips and under side of petals bright gold. Blooms of tremendous size. Very broad heavy petals Thick heavy foliage.

Roots \$5.00

Plants \$2.50

CARL G. DAHL I. D.

Old rose and gold. We have grown this dahlia over 14''. Bush 6' high. Long strong stems.

Roots \$1.50

Plants .75

CHAUTAQUA DAWN C.

Pale yellow and mallow pink. Blooms 10x5. Bush 4' high.

Roots \$1.50

Plants .75

CHEROKEE BRAVE I. D.

Oxblood red. Blooms 12x5. Bush 5' high. Highest scoring dahlia in the Central States in 1946.

Roots \$1.00

Plants .75

CLARIAM KELTON I. D.

Flame red blended yellow. Blooms 10x5. Bush 5' high. Long stems.

Plants .75

DAHLIAMUM I. D.

Apricot with a golden sheen. Blooms 11x7. Bush 4' high. Good cut flower.

Roots \$1.00

Plants .75

D'ARCY SAINSBURY (Australia) F. D.

Pure white. Blooms 10x5. A bushy 5' plant and a winner at shows.

Plants .75

DIXIE'S WINEDOT I. D.

Bicolor. White background splashed with wine red. Blooms 10x6. Long stems, heavy green foliage.

Plants .75

DON SOWTON I. D.

Deep lavender. We have grown this dahlia to 13 x 8. Bush 3' high. This was the first and the last to bloom in our garden.

Roots \$1.50

Plants .75

EDITH WILLKIE S. C.

A white of regal beauty. I have seen a 14x9-inch bloom of this dahlia. Bush 6' high and very graceful. Has won "most beautiful in show" throughout country.

Roots \$2.00

Plants \$1.00

ENCHANTRESS I. D.

Bright orange buff. Blooms 7x4. Long stems on 6' plants. Lovely for arrangements. Good root maker. Blooms cover plant.

Roots \$1.00

Plants .75

EVENTIDE I. D.

Deep purple with deeply lacinated tips. Blooms 7x5. Bush 4' high.

Roots \$1.50

Plants .75

FIVE STAR GENERAL F. D.

Blend of Amaranth pink and tyrian pink, arranged in lined inter-mingled, rendering a pastel effect, which is quite attractive. Very large blooms 10 to 13 inches by 6 inches. Strong stems. Sturdy plant growth about 5' tall. Excellent foliage. Free and consistent bloomer from early until late in the season.

Roots \$5.00

Plants \$2.00

FRANCES DEWEY I. D.

Bright red and outstanding in the garden. Blooms 8x5. Bush 6' high.

Roots \$1.50

Plants .75

GINGER ROGERS I. D.

Citron yellow. A 7'', Ball type. Bush 4' high.

Plants \$1.00

GLAMOUR I. D.

Deep purple with frosty edging on the petals. Blooms 13x8. Bush 6' high.

Roots \$1.50

Plants .75

GREATER GLORY S. C.

Pink. Blooms 8x5. Bush 4' high. A dahlia with a fine record.

Roots \$1.00

Plants .75

INDIAN SUMMER S. C.

Maize blended with orange. Blooms 9x6. Bush 7' high.
Roots \$1.50 Plants .75

JANE COWL I. D.

Yellow shading to apricot center. Blooms 9x5. Bush 7' high. An old-time favorite and still a winner.
Roots .75 Plants .75

JANE LAUSCHE S. C.

Lavender with white tips. Blooms 12x9. Bush 5' high.
Plants \$1.50

JEAN TRIMBEE S. C. (Canadian)

Deep purple. Blooms 8x4. Bush 6' high.
Roots \$1.50 Plants .75

KIRSTEN FLAGSTAD I. D.

Gold and apricot. Blooms 10x5. Bush 5' high.
Roots \$1.50 Plants .75

LATAERE C. (French)

Orange tipped yellow. Blooms 4x3. Bush 3' high. Long stems, excellent cut flower.
Roots \$1.50 Plants .75

LYNNE FONTANNE S. C.

Carminé. Blooms 10x5. Bush 5' high.
Roots \$1.50 Plants .75

MADAME JUSSAINT (France) I. C.

Lavender. Blooms 8x4. Bush 5' high. A beautiful dahlia.
Roots \$1.50 Plants .75

MAFFIE I. D.

Deep velvety red. Blooms 12x7. Bush 6' high. Won many times as "largest in show."
Roots \$2.00 Plants \$1.00

MARGRACE I. D.

Scarlet edged with gold. Blooms 10x6. Bush 6' high.
Roots \$2.00 Plants \$1.00

MARGARET COLE I. D.

Unusual bicolor, orange with white tips. Blooms 7x4.
Bush 4' high.
Roots .75.

MICHIGAN WHITE S. C.

Pure white. Blooms 6x4. Bush 6' high. Superb cut flower.
Roots \$1.50 Plants .75

MISS GLORY S. C.

Apricot yellow. Blooms 7x4. Bush 5' high. Very pleasing.
Roots \$1.00 Plants .75

MISS LIBERTY F. D.

Scarlet red with petals tipped white. Blooms 10x5.
Bush 5' high. Long stems. Heavy resistant foliage.
Winner of 2 American Home Achievement Medals, in
San Diego and Inglewood, Calif. Certificate of merit
at W. Va. Trial Grounds. Listed on all the Honor Rolls.
Plants \$3.75

MISS SAN DIEGO I. C.

Incurved lacinated cactus, of superb color and form.
This dahlia is almost in a class by itself, having distinctive incurved claw-like petals that are very deeply lacinated. Lemon yellow, outer half tyrian pink with thread-like margins at center florets showing tyrian pink. High centers make blooms almost a ball in form. Flowers grow high out of an exceptionally vigorous plant, very long strong stems.
Roots \$5.00 Plants \$2.00

MISS WAHROONGA C.

Oxblood red. Blooms 5x3. Bush 4' high. Good cut flower.
Roots \$1.00 Plants .75

MOTHER KOENIG I. D.

Pink blending yellow to the center. Blooms 11x7. Bush 6' high.
Plants \$1.50

MRS. A. G. GOODACRE F. D.

Bicolor, yellow with white tips. Blooms 7x4. Bush 5' high.
Roots \$1.50 Plants .75

MRS. C. J. SOWTON (Australia) I. D.
Rose salmon. Blooms 11x7. Bush 4' high. You'll be very
pleased with this dahlia.
Roots \$1.50 Plants .75

MRS. E. J. - C
Bright pink with white tips. Blooms 5x3. Bush 4' high.
Keeps well and makes a beautiful arrangement.
Plants \$1.50

MRS. R. G. ATKINSON I. D.
Lemon yellow. Blooms grow as large as 14½x5. Bush
6' high.
Roots \$1.75 Plants \$1.00

MRS. HESTER PAPE I. D.
Reddish purple. Blooms 12x7. Bush 7' high. This dah-
lia has won many times as "largest in show."
Plants \$2.00

NATIONS PRIDE I. D.
Peach to apricot at center. Blooms 9x5. Bush 7' high.
A very pleasing dahlia.
Plants \$1.00

NANCY ANN MITCHELL I. C.
Scarlet red. Blooms 5x3. Bush 4' high.
Plants .75

PINK FLAMINGO I. C.
Rose pink. Blooms 6x4. Bush 6' high. Has won "most
beautiful in show" many times.
Plants \$1.00

PROGRESS I. C.
Light lavender. Blooms 8x5. Bush 7' high.
Roots \$1.00

SALBACK'S WHITE F. D.
Pure white. Blooms 6x3. Bush 6' high.
Roots \$1.00

SHERWOOD'S PEACH I. D.
Buff. Blooms 13x9. Bush 5' high. This is the largest
dahlia in our garden. A very strong and bushy plant.
Roots \$1.50 Plants \$1.00

SIR GALAHAD I. D.

Orange tipped and slightly edged gold. Blooms 10x6. Bush 7' high. Very long strong stems. Outstanding in the garden.

Roots \$2.00

Plants \$1.00

SPLENDID C.

Pink with white and yellow center. Blooms 7x4. Bush 3' high.

Roots .75.

THE REAL GLORY F. D.

Snow white. Blooms 10x5. Bush 6' high. Vigorous plant with leathery green leaves.

Plants \$1.00

THOMAS A. EDISON F. D.

Dark purple. Blooms 8x5. Bush 5' high. A fine old favorite.

Roots .75.

VIRGINIA RUTE S. C.

Velvety maroon. Blooms 10x6. Bush 7' high. A very graceful and vigorous dahlia.

Roots \$2.00

Plants \$1.00



TERMS

Remittances must accompany all orders.

We prepay postage or express charges on all retail orders over \$3.00.

Wholesale orders will be shipped express collect.

We never make substitutions unless authorized.

Plants will be available beginning April 1, 1948.

A sales tax of 2½ % is required by law in the State of California. Please add this to your order.

SHIPPING

Due to difficulty in shipping plants in good condition we do not ship plants out of Southern California.

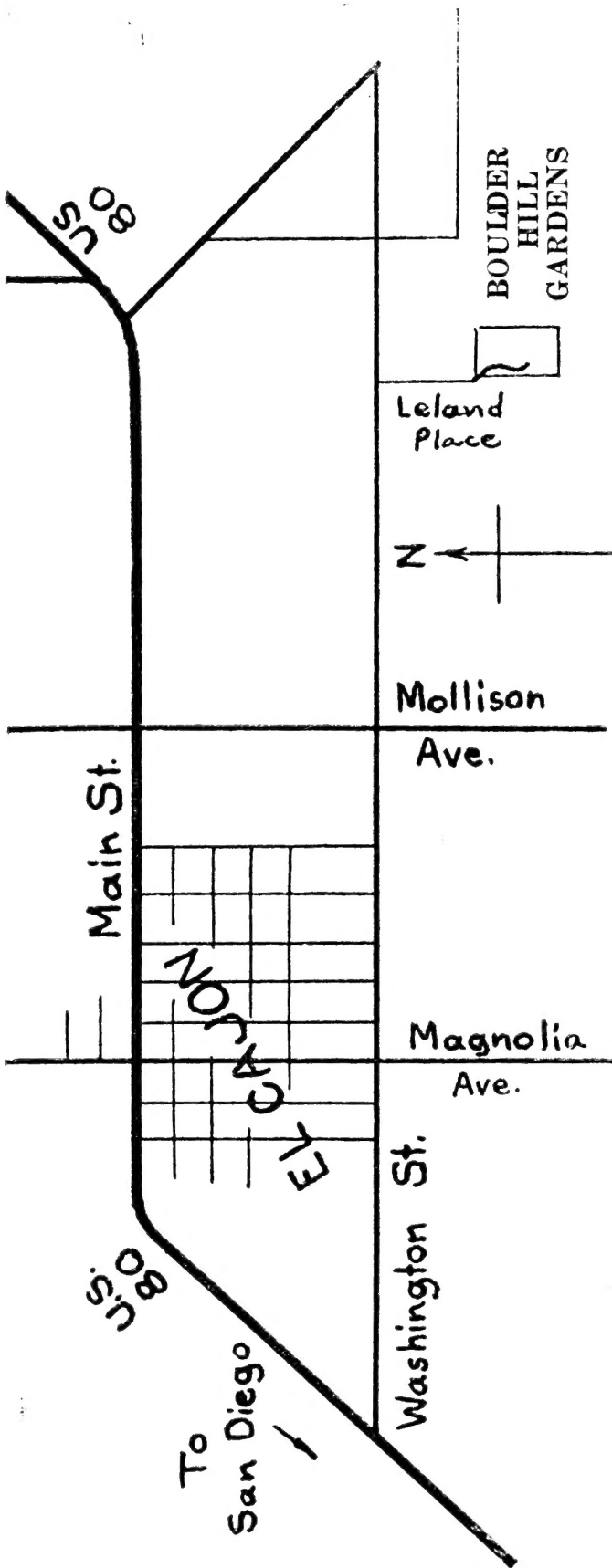
Three plant deliveries will be made to the Los Angeles area for orders of over \$5.00. If you place an order you will be notified by card a few days before delivery is made. No C.O.D. orders will be accepted.

SEED

Plants listed in this catalog comprise our entire planting. Our seeds are only from the varieties listed in this catalog. They are all ripened on the bush, hand picked and hand tested, and are from disease free stock. As these dahlias are hybrids, their seed do not come true, thus producing new varieties.

Order seed now for 1948 planting and they will be shipped beginning in January. Orders are filled as they are received, so to avoid disappointment, place your order immediately. It is very important that you give a second and third choice when ordering.

25 Seeds \$1.25 100 Seeds \$5.00 1,000 Seeds \$40.00



ORDER BLANK

Enclosed please find in payment
for the following items, shipped as per your terms. All
orders for delivery within California subject to 2½ per
cent state sales tax.

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NAME

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BOULDER HILL GARDENS

897 Leland Place
EL CAJON, CALIF., U. S. A.

To Library

U.S. Dept. of Agriculture

Washington 25, D.C.

GROWER OF QUALITY SEED
FROM DISEASE-FREE DAHLIAS

